

ABSTRACT

Apparatus for the rotation of a large body, such as the base frame (11) of a solar energy collector having a large reflective dish (10), about an axis (12) utilizes a ring member or arcuate member (16). An actuator clamp (18) can be moved along the ring or arcuate member when it is not clamped to it. The actuator clamp is connected to one end of an expansion and contraction device, such as a hydraulic ram (17). The other end of the ram is connected to the body or to a rigid arm (15) that is securely connected to the body. With the actuator clamp firmly clamped to the ring or arcuate member, the expansion or contraction of the ram causes the body to rotate about axis. At least one auxiliary clamp (20, 22) may be provided which may be used to continue the movement of the body while the position of the actuator clamp on the ring or arcuate member is changed.